

II. REMARKS

A. Summary of the Amendments

The present application still contains 34 claims, numbered 1-7, 17, 19-24, and 37-56.

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 17, 19, 21-24, 37-40, 44, 49, 51-53, 55 and 56 have been amended in order to replace subparagraph lettering in these claims with tabs and hyphen punctuation marks (" - ").

The Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added by the present amendment.

B Summary of Objections and Reply

Further to the filing on April 19, 2005 of a Response to the Advisory Action mailed on March 28, 2005, a telephone conversation between the Examiner and the Applicant's Agent took place on May 16, 2005. During that conversation, the Examiner indicated that subparagraph lettering of the dependent claims of the application should be revised to remove certain duplications and that he would issue a Second Advisory Action to that effect. The Examiner however indicated that a voluntary submission of revised claims would expedite matters.

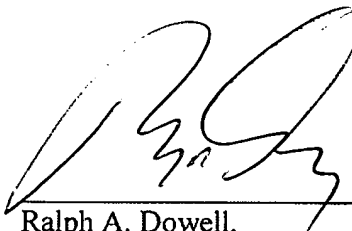
Accordingly, the claims have been amended in order to replace subparagraph lettering therein with tabs and hyphen punctuation marks (" - "). It is thus respectfully submitted that the Examiner's issue with subparagraph lettering of the dependent claims has been resolved. The Applicant therefore respectfully submits that all the claims remaining in the application (i.e. claims 1-7, 17, 19-24, and 37-56) are now in condition for allowance.

III. CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-7, 17, 19-24, and 37-56 are now in condition for allowance. Allowance of claims 1-7, 17, 19-24, and 37-56 at an early date is solicited.

If the application is not considered to be in full condition for allowance, for any reason, the Applicant respectfully requests the constructive assistance and suggestions of the Examiner in drafting one or more acceptable claims pursuant to MPEP 707.07(j) or in making constructive suggestions pursuant to MPEP 706.03 so that the application can be placed in allowable condition as soon as possible and without the need for further proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,



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